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CLASSIFICATION CONFIDENTIAL CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

REPORT NO.

## 25X1A

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## INFORMATION REPORT

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Recruiting, Hopeh

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**SUBJECT** 

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- 1. Since the spring of 1951 Communist military authorities have taken energetic steps to expand militia organization in the various hsien of Hopeh in order to replace casualties incurred in the Korean war. After two months of training, able-bodied recruits joined units in various hsien sub-divisions and then were amalgamated into the hsien militia forces which made them available for replacement in the field armies. Through August, the average total furnished by each haien was 1,500; the total for Hopeh was about 120,000.
- 2. In February there was a strong propaganda movement throughout Hopeh urging people to join the armed forces. A second movement came in May and a third in July. Standards of selection, which had been very strict, were gradually reduced. Very few were enthusiastic about joining and many deserted after they joined. The total number who joined during the third campaign was between sixty and seventy thousand.
- 3. In late September the 66 and 67 Armies, 20 Army Group, were transferred from the Korean front to Hopeh. As of early October the 66 Army was stationed at Tsunhua (117-58, 40-10), Yutien (117-45, 39-53), Fengjun (118-08, 39-51), and Luanhsien (118-44, 39-45), with headquarters at Luanhsien. The 67 Army was stationed at Miyun (116-50, 40-21), Huaijou (116-37, 40-16), P'ingku (117-09, 40-06), and Shuni (116-39, 40-08), with headquarters at Shuni.
- In early October the Hopeh Military District Command, the Hopeh Government, the Chinese Communist Party Provincial Committee for Hopeh, and the Youth Corps Working Committee acted upon and transmitted certain instructions from their respective superiors to various administrators' offices, armed forces commands of the military sub-districts, the army expansion committee of the separate hsien, the Party committees of the separate districts and hsien, and Youth Corps Working Committees of the separate districts and hsien. The instructions exhorted the subordinate organizations to "do well in their political mobilization activities connected with the 'Join the Army'movement."

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The organizations were to encourage militiamen and other able-bodied persons to volunteer as replacements for casualties sustained by the 66 and 67 Armies in the Korean war.<sup>2</sup> The main points of these instructions were as follows:

- a. Main points for implementation:
  - (1) To make the people understand that the Chinese Communist Army and the Volunteer Army enjoy a pleasant and democratic military, political and cultural life; and that dependents of martyrs and soldiers have enjoyed high honor.
  - (2) Using past experience in mobilization and recruitment, to conduct a successful series of meetings which will induce youths and middle-aged citizens in large numbers to fill these glorious positions.
  - (3) "Convincing" work must be carried out during the implementation process in a concrete fashion so that doubt and difficulties of the recruits will be eliminated.
- b. Regulations for recruitment:
  - (1) A total of 17,500 men must join the army in the course of this movement; 70 percent must be militiamen and 30 percent able-bodied recruits.
  - (2) Eight hundred militia cadres, selected from the better cadres who have been acting as company commanders or officers of lower rank, must join the army.
  - (3) Timing of this recruitment campaign must be controlled so that the above objectives are reached before the end of October 1951.

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- Comment. The recruitment of militia has been compulsory, and the recruits after training have no choice as to whether they will or will not be incorporated into regular troop movements. Joining the armed forces, on the other hand, is ostensibly voluntary. Most such recruits are sent to the front to assist the troops in combat, transportation or first aid.

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- 2. Comment. This "Join the Army" movement was the second held in Hopeh; the first was held in May.

25X1A Comment. This is in apparent disagreement with information in paragraph 2 from another source.

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